



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of
American Samoa

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National Park of American Samoa News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Park of American Samoa Celebrates 25th Anniversary

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—On October 31, the National Park of American Samoa will celebrate 25 years of partnerships, preservation, and protection.

“It is a time to honor the creation of our unique national park, celebrate our accomplishments over the past 25 years, and renew our commitment to preserve and protect the islands’ natural and cultural heritage for generations to come,” said Superintendent Jim Bacon. “We are excited to share this momentous occasion with the village leaders, park partners, and the public.”

Activities this week will begin on Wednesday morning with a visit to the LBJ Hospital Pediatrics Ward and Clinic by national park management. They will greet the children and handout cupcakes, balloons, junior ranger activity books, and award them badges as official junior rangers.

On Thursday morning, an event for invited guests will focus on celebrating 25 years of partnerships with local government agencies, schools, and village representatives. In the afternoon, the general public is invited to an open house between 1 pm and 3 pm at the National Park Visitor Center and Headquarters in Pago Pago. Visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy the national park’s natural and cultural exhibits and videos.

The week’s events will conclude on Friday with the national park staff celebrating as a team during a *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* physical fitness event.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

The National Park of American Samoa was established by Congress and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on October 31, 1988. It was created to protect tropical rainforests, coral reefs, fruit bats, and the Samoan culture. In 1993, the National Park Service signed a 50-year lease with the American Samoa Government. This unique lease initiated a partnership with the villages of Fagasā, Pago Pago, Āfono, Vatia, Ta'ū, Fiti'uta, and Faleāsao. Congress also authorized portions of Ofu and Olosega islands to be included in 2002.

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